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INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

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AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LAPAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 USUN 0690

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, XM

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA AT THE 30TH UNGA

REF: STATE 675 (NOTAL)

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY. THIS TELEGRAM REPORTS ON THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN (LA) STATES AT THE 30TH UNGA. THE VOTING ANALYSIS WHICH FOLLOWS IS BASED UPON ELEVEN IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES AND THE PROCEDURAL MOTION TO POSTPONE ACTION ON THE ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION. LA VOTES PROVIDED THE CRUCIAL MARGIN OF SUPPORT ON THE SINGLE KEY POLITICAL ISSUE WHERE THE US POSITION PREVAILED--THE FRIENDLY KOREAN RESOLUTION. LA SUPPORT DECLINED FROM LAST YEAR, WITH BRAZIL, VENEZUELA AND PANAMA, AS WELL AS GUYANA, GIVING THE US LESS SUPPORT ON THE KOREAN ISSUE. SPLITS AMONG THE LAS WERE APPARENT ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES INCLUDING ZIONISM, CHILE, BELIZE AND AFRICAN QUESTIONS. LA SUPPORT FOR THE US POSITION ON MIDDLE EAST (ME) ISSUES REMAINED AT THE SAME LOW LEVEL OF RECENT YEARS, EXCEPT ON THE TWO CRITICAL ANTI-ZIONISM VOTES WHERE THE LAS PROVIDED ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE TOTAL SUPPORT. CUBA CONTINUED ACTIVELY TO OPPOSE THE US ON VIRTUALLY EVERY ISSUE AND WAS JOINED AT THIS GA BY GUYANA. PANAMA, IN CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR, FOCUSED ATTENTION ON THE PANAMA CANAL ISSUE AND WAS MUCH LESS SUPPORTIVE ON KEY POLITICAL ISSUES. LESS OVERALL ATTENTION WAS FOCUSED ON CHILE BY THE SOVIET, EASTERN EUROPEANS AND RADICAL NON-ALIGNED, HOWEVER, THE HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION ON CHILE WAS CONSIDERABLY STRONGER THAN LAST YEAR. MEXICO PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE ON DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC MATTERS, PUSHING THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES IN MANY FORUMS. BRAZIL WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF LESSENED SUPPORT FOR US POLITICAL INITIATIVES. ARGENTINA PLAYED A LESS ACTIVE ROLE THAN LAST YEAR. SURINAM ENTERED UN WATERS VERY GINGERLY, VOTING ONLY SIX TIMES, AND ONLY ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ITEMS.

END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

1. LA VOTING ANALYSIS: THIS ANALYSIS OF LA VOTING AT THE 30TH UNGA IS BASED LARGELY ON PLENARY VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

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CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND USUN AS "IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE" (REFTEL) PLUS THE PROCEDURAL VOTE TO POSTPONE THE ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION. THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE NUMBER OF LAS VOTING WITH OR IN OPPOSITION TO THE US POSITION ON EACH ISSUE, THE PERCENTAGE OF LAS VOTING WITH US AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE LAS.

TABLE 1 - LAS ON 12 IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES

RES.#	TITLE	VOTE	US	US	US	BY LAS
3390A	KOREA (FRIENDLY)	59(US)-51-29	18	2	69	30
3390B	KOREA (HOSTILE)	54-43(US)-43	15	3	58	35
3429	GUAM	89-6(US)-32	1	15	4	17
3481	OMNIBUS DECOLONIZATION	108-3(US)-15	1	16	4	33
3482	INFO ON DECOLONIZATION	117-2(US)-6	0	17	0	0
3379	ANTI-ZIONISM	72-35(US)-32	10	5	38	29
PRO-CED-URAL	POSTPONE ANTI-ZIONISM	55(US)-67-15	17	3	65	31
3375	INVITE PLO TO ME TALKS	101-8(US)-25	3	13	12	38
3376	QUESTION OF PALESTINE	93-18(US)-27	3	13	12	38

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3414	SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST	84-17(US)-27	5	7	19	29
3411G	APARTHEID	101-15(US)-16	0	17	0	0
3486	CERDS	114-3(US)-11	0	23	0	0

2. KOREA. ON THE FRIENDLY KOREAN RES--THE SINGLE VOTE OF THE ABOVE 12 WHERE THE US POSITION PREVAILED--LA SUPPORT WAS CRUCIAL, WITH THE LAS PROVIDING AS LARGE A BLOC OF SUPPORT (18) AS THE WESTERN EUROPEANS. ON THE HOSTILE KOREAN RES AND THE VOTE TO POSTPONE THE ANTI-ZIONISM RES, THE TWO OTHER ISSUES OF THE 12 WHERE THE US POSITION CAME CLOSE TO PREVAILING, LA SUPPORT WAS ALMOST AS SOLID.

3. SINCE THE TWO KOREAN RESES WERE KEY POLITICAL ISSUES ON WHICH THE US ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE LOBBYING AT BOTH THE 29TH AND 30TH UNGA'S, THEY PROVIDE A MEASURE OF DECLINING LA SUPPORT FOR US POLITICAL INITIATIVES. WHILE BOTH THE BAHAMAS AND JAMAICA IMPROVED THEIR RECORD IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE ON THE HOSTILE KOREAN RES (ABSTENTION TO NO, AND YES TO ABSTENTION RESPECTIVELY IN COMMITTEE, WITH THE SAME VOTE IN PLENARY), THERE WAS A MARKED EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR THE US POSITION BY FOUR LAS:

PANAMA (YES TO ABSTAIN ON FRIENDLY RES, AND NO TO YES ON HOSTILE RES),

GUYANA (ABSTAIN TO NO ON FRIENDLY RES),

BRAZIL (NO TO ABSTAIN ON HOSTILE RES),

VENEZUELA (NO TO ABSTAIN ON HOSTILE RES).

4. MIDDLE EAST. ON MIDDLE EAST (ME) QUESTIONS, WHILE THE VOTE TO POSTPONE THE ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION AND THE RES ITSELF HAD NO COUNTERPARTS AT THE 29TH UNGA, THERE WERE ME RESES LAST YEAR GENERALLY COMPARABLE TO THE PLO (3375), PALESTINE (3376) AND ME SITUATION (3414) RESES AT THE 30TH UNGA, BOTH IN TERMS OF THE US POSITION AND LIMITED US LOBBYING. AS THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS, THERE WAS ALMOST NO CHANGE IN THE VERY LOW LEVEL OF LA SUPPORT FOR THE US ON THESE RESES.

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TABLE 2 - LAS ON ME RESES

RESOLUTIONS LA SUPPORT FOR US POSITION

29TH UNGA

PLO RECOGNITION (2) BOLIVIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PALESTINE SELF-DETERMINATION (4) BOLIVIA, CHILE, COSTA RICA
AND NICARAGUA (DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC ABSENT)

PLO OBSERVER STATUS (4) BOLIVIA, CHILE, COSTA RICA,
NICARAGUA (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ABSENT)

30TH UNGA

PLO TO ME TALKS (3) COSTA RICA, HONDURAS AND
NICARAGUA

PALESTINE (3) COSTA RICA, HONDURAS AND

NICARAGUA

ME SITUATION (5) BARBADOS, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC, HAITI, NICARAGUA
(HONDURAS ABSENT)

5. THE NET VOTING CHANGE REFLECTED IN THE ABOVE TABLE IS SLIGHT AND THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT SHIFT IN THE LAS WHICH SUPPORT THE US POSITION. BOLIVIA AND CHILE NO LONGER SUPPORTED THE US ME POSITION, BUT HONDURAS VOTED WITH US ON TWO OF THE THREE RESES.

6. THE LA VOTE ON THE MOVE TO POSTPONE THE ANTI-ZIONISM RES IS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT SINCE IT PROBABLY MARKS THE OUTER LIMIT OF LA SUPPORT FOR AN IMPORTANT US ME POSITION WHERE WE ENGAGED IN SOME LOBBYING. SEVENTEEN LAS JOINED
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US ON THAT VOTE, PROVIDING ALMOST A THIRD OF THE TOTAL SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION. ONLY BRAZIL, CUBA AND GUYANA VOTED AGAINST THE MOVE TO POSTPONE WITH THE FOLLOWING LAS ABSTAINING: CHILE, GRENADA, GUATEMALA, JAMAICA, PERU AND VENEZUELA.

7. LA DIVISIONS. WHILE THE LAS DEMONSTRATED SOLIDARITY ON SOME POLITICAL ISSUES (WHERE WE ENGAGED IN INTENSIVE LOBBYING) AND ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, WHERE THEY TENDED TO OPPOSE US (CERDS, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY), THE LAS WERE GENERALLY MORE DIVIDED THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. ON THE BELIZE DISPUTE--A SPECIFICALLY LATIN AMERICAN ISSUE-- THE TRADITIONAL SPLIT BETWEEN THE CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS AND THE SPANISH SPEAKERS WAS PARTICULARLY EVIDENT. WHILE THE CENTRAL AMERICANS, JOINED BY PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY, VOTED WITH GUATEMALA IN OPPOSING THE UK-CARIBBEAN BELIZE RES (3432), ADOPTED 110-9-16(US), ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, MEXICO, PERU AND VENEZUELA ABSTAINED. A GUATEMALAN RES ON BELIZE WAS RESOUNDINGLY DEFEATED WITH THE SPANISH SPEAKING LAS PROVIDING ALMOST THE ONLY SUPPORT; MEXICO, HOWEVER, ABSTAINED, ON BOTH RESES, AND CUBA VOTED WITH THE CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH NATIONS.

8. CHILE. THE LAS ALSO SPLIT ON ANOTHER LA-RELATED ISSUE THE RES ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE (3448). ONLY JAMAICA, ECUADOR, CUBA, GUYANA, MEXICO AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AMONG THE LAS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE RES (WHICH THE US ALSO SUPPORTED); BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, PANAMA, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY OPPOSED THE RES. OTHER LAS ABSTAINED OR WERE ABSENT.

9. AFRICAN ISSUES. AFRICAN ISSUES WERE ANOTHER AREA OF DISAGREEMENT AMONG THE LAS. ON THE GHANAIAN RES ON SPANISH SAHARA, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEANS AND CUBA LINED UP AGAINST MOST OF THE SPANISH SPEAKERS, WITH ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, MEXICO, PERU AND VENEZUELA ABSTAINING.

10. DECOLONIZATION. ON THREE DECOLONIZATION ISSUES WHERE THE US LOBBIED HERE AND IN CAPITALS, THE LAS WERE NOT DIVIDED
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AT ALL. ONLY NICARAGUA VOTED WITH US ON THE GUAM AND OMNIBUS DECOLONIZATION RESES, WITH EVEN THAT VERY LIMITED SUPPORT EVAPORATING ON THE DECOLONIZATION INFO RES. WHILE THERE WERE SOME LA ABSTENTIONS ON THE THREE RESES, AND TWO LAS (BARBADOS AND BAHAMAS) REMOVED THEMSELVES AS CO-SPONSORS OF THE OMNIBUS RES IN RESPONSE TO OUR LOBBYING, 56 PERCENT OF THE LAS VOTED AGAINST US ON ALL THREE RESES. ONLY COSTA RICA ABSTAINED ON ALL THREE. BARBADOS, BAHAMAS, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA AND URUGUAY ABSTAINED ON TWO OUT OF THREE.

11. NON-ALIGNED. ARGENTINA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, JAMAICA AND PERU, ALTHOUGH MEMBERS OF THE "NON-ALIGNED," ABSTAINED ON THOSE POLITICAL ISSUES--WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE GUAM AND THE DECOLONIZATION RESES--WHERE THE US LOBBIED. GUYANA, CUBA AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, PANAMA, ON THE OTHER HAND, TENDED TO VOTE A STRAIGHT "NON-ALIGNED" LINE.

12. RANK ORDER OF SUPPORT. WHILE AN ACCURATE RANK ORDERING OF LA SUPPORT FOR US POSITIONS IS DIFFICULT BECAUSE ALL TWELVE ISSUES WERE NOT OF COMPARABLE IMPORTANCE AND BECAUSE WE BROUGHT VERY DIFFERENT LEVELS OF DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE TO BEAR, THE FOLLOWING RANK ORDER DOES PROVIDE A SCHEMATIC OVERVIEW OF HOW EACH OF THE LAS VOTED (THE FIRST NUMBER IS VOTES WITH US ON THE 12 ISSUES, AND THE SECOND IS VOTES OPPOSITE TO THE US; ABSTENTIONS AND ABSENCES ARE NOT INCLUDED):
NICARAGUA (9-1), COSTA RICA (7-2), HONDURAS (6-1), HAITI (5-1), PARAGUAY (3-0), BARBADOS (5-3), URUGUAY (4-2), EL SALVADOR (4-2), DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (5-4), BAHAMAS (4-3), GUATEMALA (2-1), BOLIVIA (3-3), SURINAM (0-0), CHILE (2-5), COLOMBIA (3-6), GRENADA (2-7), VENEZUELA (1-7), BRAZIL (1-7), ARGENTINA (1-7), PANAMA (2-8), ECUADOR (2-8), TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (1-8), MEXICO (1-8), JAMAICA (0-8), PERU (0-8), GUYANA (0-12), CUBA (0-12).

13. INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES: CUBA. CUBA CONTINUED ACTIVELY TO OPPOSE THE US ON VIRTUALLY EVERY ISSUE, VOTING AGAINST THE US POSITION ON ALL TWELVE IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES (A RECORD EQUALLED ONLY BY GUYANA). CUBAN PERMREP ALARCON, AN EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE ORATOR, BACKED BY THE LARGEST LA

MISSION, WAS AGAIN ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE FIGURES IN
COMMITTEE AND PLENARY DEBATE WITH SOMETHING
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TO SAY ON ALMOST EVERY ISSUE FROM AMNESTY TO ZIONISM.
ALTHOUGH THE CUBAN DELEGATION HELD ITS ANTI-US RHETORIC
IN CHECK TO SOME EXTENT DURING THE EARLY PART OF THE
SESSION (POSSIBLY IN RESPONSE TO APPARENTLY CONCILIATORY
US SIGNALS) THE QUANTITY AND FEROCITY OF CUBAN ATTACKS
AGAINST THE US INCEREASED SUBSTANTIALLY AS THE GA PROCEEDED.
CUBA CONTINUED TO BELABOR THE PUERTO RICAN ISSUE, AND
EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR PANAMA. ITS VITROLIC DENUNCIA-
TIONS OF CHILE WERE NOTABLE. IN WHAT MAY PORTEND A NEW
FOCUS OF CUBAN ATTENTION AT THE NEXT GA, ALARCON ALSO TOOK
US ON BRIEFLY CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC
ISLANDS. READMITTED TO THE LA GROUP IN 1975, CUBA WAS ABLE TO
PURSUE A WIDE RANGE OF LA GROUP CANDIDACIES DURING THE 30TH
GA--FROM A GA VICE PRESIDENCY TO AN ECOSOC SEAT. NON-ALIGNED
SUPPORT FOR CUBA WAS CLEAR IN THE ECOSOC ELECTION WHERE CUBA
SUCCESSFULLY CONTESTED ONE OF THE FOUR LA SEATS IN THE FACE
OF LA GROUP SUPPORT FOR OTHER CANDIDATES.

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14. PANAMA. IN CONTRAST TO PANAMA'S VERY LOW-KEY TREATMENT OF THE CANAL ISSUE AT THE LAST GA, PANAMA PLAYED UP THE ISSUE SUBSTANTIALLY THIS YEAR. FROM ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OZORES' GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT, THOUGH A GAMUT OF OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STATEMENTS BY PERMREP BOYD AND DEPUTY PERMREP RIOS, PANAMA REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY FOR RAPID PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. LA AND NON-ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR PANAMA ON THE CANAL ISSUE WAS EVIDENT IN GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES. ALSO, AS NOTED ALREADY, IN CONTRAST TO PANAMA'S VOTING WITH US ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE KOREA AND KHMER REPRESENTATION QUESTIONS LAST YEAR, PANAMA ABSTAINED ON THE FRIENDLY KOREAN RES AND VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE HOSTILE KOREAN RES (AS WELL AS SEVEN OTHER IMPORTANT REPRESENTATIVE VOTES). PANAMA ONLY VOTED WITH US ON TWO IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES AT THE 30TH UNGA--POST-PONEMENT OF THE ANTI-ZIONISM RES AND THE RES ITSELF.

15. CHILE. THE SOVIET, EASTERN EUROPEAN AND RADICAL NON-ALIGNED ATTACK ON CHILE WAS SOMEWHAT DIMINISHED AT THE 30TH UNGA. CHILE FIELDDED A LARGER AND MORE PROFESSIONAL

DELEGATION THAN LAST YEAR AND EXERCISED MORE RESTRAINT IN REPLYING TO ATTACKS--AVOIDING THE FREQUENT EXCHANGES OF RIGHTS OF REPLY. USUN SUCCESSFULLY SIDETRACKED A CHALLENGE TO CHILE'S CREDENTIALS. NEVERTHELESS, THE REACTION TO CHILE'S DECISION NOT TO ADMIT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WORKING GROUP, THE PUBLICATION OF THE WORKING GROUP'S REPORT, RELATED PRESS COVERAGE AND THE ADOPTION OF A MUCH STRONGER RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE SERVED TO MAINTAIN CHILE'S PARIAH STATUS AT THE UN. CHILE VOTED WITH THE US ON ONLY TWO OF THE TWELVE VOTES ANALYSED--THE KOREA RESOLUTIONS.

16. MEXICO. WHILE MEXICO PLAYED ITS TRADITIONALLY ACTIVE ROLE, PARTICULARLY ON DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC MATTERS, UNDER THE EXPERIENCED AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP OF PERMREP GARCIA ROBLES, MEXICAN PRESTIGE SUFFERED BECAUSE OF TWO ABORTIVE INITIATIVES: THE REQUEST FOR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF SPANISH EXECUTIONS AND MEXICO'S ATTEMPT TO PLAY A CONCILIATORY ROLE IN THE BELIZE DISPUTE. ON CONFIDENTIAL

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DISARMAMENT, SOME OF THE TROUBLESOME ASPECTS OF MEXICAN ACTION INCLUDED: CRITICISM OF THE US (AND USSR) FOR INADEQUATE PROGRESS ON SALT AND FAILURE TO CONCLUDE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY, AN ATTEMPT TO WRITE THE MEXICAN NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE CONCEPT INTO INTERNATIONAL LAW, UNREALISTIC PROTOCOLS FOR THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AND UNREALISTIC AMENDMENTS TO THE PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION RESOLUTION. ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, GARCIA ROBLES MAINTAINED HIS POSITION AS ONE OF THE SPOKESMEN OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD AND CONTINUED MEXICO'S ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES IN MANY DIFFERENT UN FORUMS. THE ONLY IMPORTANT VOTE ON WHICH MEXICAN AND US POSITIONS COINCIDED WAS POSTPONEMENT OF THE ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION. (MEXICO VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION ITSELF). OF THE OTHER ELEVEN REPRESENTATIVE VOTES, MEXICO VOTED DIFFERENTLY FROM THE US ON EIGHT (A RECORD SURPASSED ONLY BY CUBA AND GUYANA).

17. BRAZIL. BRAZIL WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR US POSITIONS. IN CONTRAST TO ACROSS-THE-BOARD SUPPORT ON KOREA AND KHMER LAST YEAR, BRAZIL SLIPPED TO AN ABSTENTION ON THE HOSTILE KOREAN RESOLUTION AND TOOK POSITIONS DIFFERENT FROM THE US ON SEVEN OF THE TWELVE IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES, INCLUDING POSTPONEMENT OF ZIONISM AND THE ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION ITSELF. THERE APPEARED TO BE A GENERAL COOLING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND BRAZILIAN MISSIONS. BRAZIL, FOR EXAMPLE WAS THE ONLY LA NOT TO ATTEND THE SECRETARY'S LA LUNCH. BRAZIL WAS CONSIDERABLY LESS ACTIVE IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS) THAN IN THE LAST THREE GAS, PROBABLY DUE TO THE DEPARTURE

OF PERSONNEL PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THAT AREA. BRAZILIAN EFFORTS TO PUSH ITS TRADE PROPOSAL, WHICH BRAZIL INTRODUCED AT THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, AT THE GA FAILED.

18. ARGENTINA. ARGENTINA PLAYED A LESS ACTIVE ROLE THAN LAST YEAR, PROBABLY AS A RESULT OF DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS AS WELL AS THE LACK OF ANY MAIN COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP. WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER ROBLEDO DISCUSSED THE FALKLAND DISPUTE IN HIS GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT, THE ISSUE RECEIVED LITTLE ATTENTION DURING THE GA; THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (DECOLONIZATION) RECOMMENDED THAT THE GA DEFER DISCUSSION OF THE FALKLANDS UNTIL

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NEXT YEAR. IN SPITE OF INTENSIVE AND REPEATED US EFFORTS, ARGENTINA ABSTAINED ON BOTH KOREA RESOLUTIONS (AS LAST YEAR). POSTPONEMENT OF THE ANTI-ZIONISM RES WAS THE ONLY IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTE WHERE THE ARGENTINE AND US POSITIONS COINCIDED. ARGENTINE VOTES ON SEVEN OF THE TWELVE VOTES WERE OPPOSITE TO THE US.

19. SURINAM. SURINAM ENTERED UN WATERS VERY GINGERLY. ALTHOUGH DOZENS OF RESES WERE ADOPTED FOLLOWING SURINAM'S DECEMBER 4TH ENTRY, IT VOTED ONLY SIX TIMES, ALL ON FIFTH COMMITTEE (ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY) ITEMS. SURINAM WAS ABSENT (OR AT LEAST DID NOT VOTE) ON ALL OTHER ISSUES--INCLUDING SIX OF THE TWELVE IMPORTANT AND REPRESENTATIVE VOTES.

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Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: LATIN AMERICA AT THE 30TH UNGA
TAGS: PFOR, XM, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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